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NATURAL RESOURCES

Assembly
California Legislature
JOHN LAIRD
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February 27, 2007

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Moss Landing Sustainable Fishing Feasibility Study

Dear Chairperson Bosco:

I am writing to support the staff recommendation to disburse up to \$50,000 to help fund a feasibility study for a sustainable fishing facility in Moss Landing. The proposal to partner with Moss Landing Marine Laboratories to keep an off-loading and processing facility in operation for local fishing businesses in a sustainable manner is one that holds much promise for all stakeholders.

To find ways to keep essential commercial fishing activity viable, the Coastal Conservancy has a history of unique and successful partnerships with the fishing industry in several communities. The importance of commercial fishing to the Moss Landing economy is paramount to those who live, work and own businesses there. I believe this proposal will help find a way to continue and enhance this industry, while also furthering the research goals of the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.

I am pleased to be able to support the staff recommendation, and I look forward to learning more as the study moves forward.

Sincerely,

JOHN LAIRD, Assemblymember
27th District

JL:co

CHAPMAN

shenvironmental.com

Doug Bosco, Chair
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
FAX 510 286 0470 Attn: Moss Landing Sustainable Fishing

February 7, 2007

Dear Chair Bosco:

I am writing to you in support of your staff's position in favor of funding the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories feasibility study of a sustainable fishery offloading and processing facility in Moss Landing.

The California Coastal Act and the Monterey County Local Coastal Plan for the Moss landing area detail that the fishing industry use of coastal property is to be encouraged and protected. The industry is in current decline for a number of reasons and is in need of assistance and new approaches to insure that the industry is not entirely lost on the Central Coast. One approach is to more efficiently and sustainably harvest seafood while incorporating novel methods to market product to the consumer. The linkage of the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and the fishing industry provides the opportunity to more closely manage the fisheries and guide the industry for greater stability and longevity while obtaining more scientific information about the fisheries.

My personal interest in this project is due to an association with a group of scientists and fishermen currently exploring the potential to sustainably exploit the California sardine resource for greater consumption in the American diet and to investigate other under-utilized seafood resources.

Sincerely,



Scott Hennessy

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DEL MAR SEAFOODS, INC.

331 Ford Street Watsonville, CA 95076

Processors and Distributors of Monterey Bay Squid

February 15, 2007

Doug Bosco, Chair
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Moss Landing Sustainable Fishing:

Dear Doug:

We are pleased to hear that the Coastal Conservancy is proposing to fund a feasibility study for a sustainable fishing and off loading in Moss Landing. We support the staff's recommendation for a grant to the Moss Landing Marine Laboratory in order to conduct this study.

The local fishing community and the industry as a whole could only benefit from such a study. Partnering with the MLML could also benefit the research that is conducted as they can communicate directly with the fishermen and the processor first hand. We believe everyone's goal is to have a long and health fishery, and a study of this kind will achieve that.

Sincerely,


Joe Roggio
Controller